Report to the Premier and the Public

Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board Fiscal Year 1999-2000

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE IN ISSUANCE OF TENURES
AND APPROVAL OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES
AND EXPENDITURES FROM THE
MUSKWA-KECHIKA TRUST FUND

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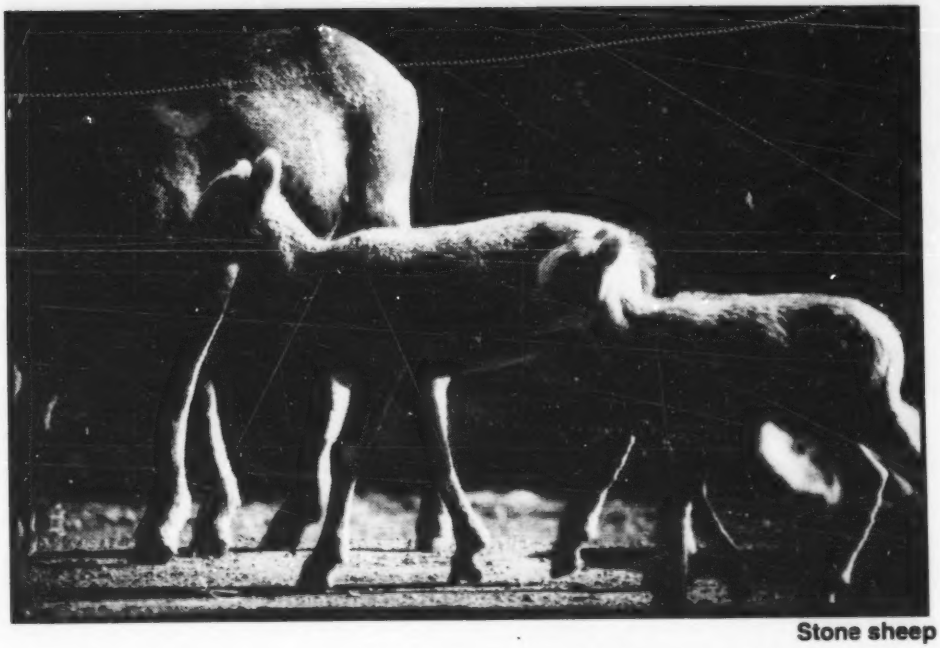

Stone sheep

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board, created by the *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act* in June of 1998, has a public reporting responsibility to consider government's issuance of tenures and approval of operational activities, and to examine the achievement of management plan objectives through local strategic planning and operational activities.

The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board also reviews the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund applications and recommends funding expenditures, according to criteria consistent with the Advisory Board's strategic plan. The Advisory Board has the responsibility to report annually on the above-mentioned activities.

This report concludes, that all tenures and permits issued, renewed and replaced, and all operational activities conducted by government agencies in the MKMA during the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year were deemed to be consistent with *the Muskwa-Kechika Management Act* and the Fort Nelson and Fort St. John Land and Resource Management Plans.

The **expenditures** from Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund, consistent with the expenditure plan and authorized by the trustee, are reported. Some of the expenditures included:

- Continued clean up of old fuel barrels, metals, garbage and camp materials that are an environmental hazard in the M-KMA;
- Ongoing funding for the conception, design and planning for a land use symposium in the future, based on the M-KMA as a land use planning model;
- Signage of the extensive system of trails throughout the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area;

- The M-KMA Recreation Plan continued;
- Supporting planning and the consolidation of inventory information from the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area;
- A series of public presentations by professors from University of Northern British Columbia and the Northern Land Use Institute were held throughout the Northeast with topics related to the M-KMA;
- A Muskwa-Kechika Youth Environment Camp held in the Turnagain Region;
- Enforcement and compliance work carried out within the M-KMA and established presence throughout the backcountry.
- A compliance and enforcement *study explored options to establish and enhanced field presence for compliance, enforcement and interpretation in the M-K MA.

*Note: This report raised some potential statutory issues that the M-K Advisory Board has identified as a priority. There is an accelerated need for enforcement of Provincial and Federal Statutes under the mandates of the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Energy and Mines within the M-K in order that objectives for the area can be achieved. The report identifies one recommendation that a partnership be established between BC Parks and the Conservation Officer Service in order to better assist each with the compliance/ enforcement strategies in the M-K MA. The Board anticipates more proposals in the future regarding this issue.

One of many magnificent scenes within the Muskwa-Kechika

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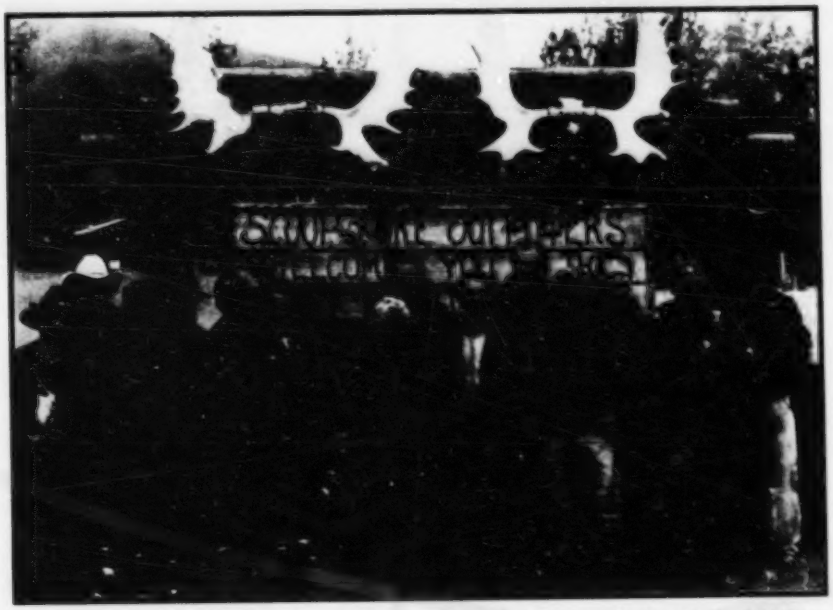
Some **highlights** of developments during this fiscal year included:

- A seat was added to the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board to be filled by a member of Treaty 8;
- The Strategic Plan continued to be developed;
- A new Request for Proposal was issued for the M-K Advisory Board Coordinator;
- A Muskwa-Kechika Program Manager was hired to work closely with the M-K Advisory Board and its Coordinator;
- The relationship between the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board and the Inter-Agency Management Committee (IAMC) continued to develop with improved communication between the two bodies;
- An evaluation of the Upper Sikanni Pre-tenure Plan was completed;
- The Advisory Board and government staff continued discussions regarding the variance process for Pre-Tenure Plans;
- The June Board meeting was held in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area, at Scoop Lake camp.



The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board at Scoop Lake (July 1999)

Enforcement and compliance issue: The M-K Advisory Board has identified this issue as a priority and supports the recommendation of an inter-agency model for compliance/enforcement and interpretive activity and the hiring of a coordinator on a two-year contract. In addition, the Board recommends joint patrol with First Nations' communities.

INTRODUCTION

The *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act* establishes an Advisory Board and brings into regulation the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan. The plan states that the Advisory Board will be responsible for:

- Conducting semi-annual reviews of the issuance of tenures and approval of operational activities to examine the achievement of management plan objectives through local strategic planning and operational activities;

- Reporting, at least annually, to the public and the Premier on the results of the Board's semi-annual reviews and any other issues related to the management of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area.

The passage of the *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act* in June 1998 created the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board with these roles. The Advisory Board held its first meeting in October 1998. This report is the second annual review of the issuance of tenures and approval of operational activities.

BACKGROUND

In 1997, the Government of British Columbia accepted the multi-stakeholder Land and Resource Management Planning (LRMP) table recommendations for the Fort St. John and Fort Nelson Forest Districts. These recommendations included special management of the Muskwa-Kechika area.

A Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan was adopted through Order-in-Council (1367/97) in December of 1997. The management plan provided direction to all government agencies for implementation of the LRMP objectives and strategies for agency-specific management activities, local strategic plans, resource development permits, and Crown land and natural resource dispositions.

In June 1998, the legislature passed the *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act*. The act identifies the purpose of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area:

"WHEREAS the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area is an area of unique wilderness in northeastern British Columbia that is endowed with a globally significant abundance and diversity of wildlife;
AND WHEREAS the management intent for the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area is to maintain in perpetuity the wilderness quality, and the diversity and abundance of wildlife and the ecosystems on which it depends while allowing resource development and use in parts of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area designated for those purposes including recreation, hunting, timber harvesting, mineral exploration and mining, oil and gas exploration and development;
AND WHEREAS the long-term maintenance of wilderness characteristics, wildlife and its habitat is critical to the social and cultural well-being of first nations and other people in the area;
AND WHEREAS the integration of management activities especially related to the planning, development and management of road accesses within the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area is central to achieving this intent and the long-term objective is to return lands to their natural state as development activities are completed."

Spring time within the M-K

The *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act* also made the pre-existing Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Management Plan a regulation. Additionally the legislation created an Advisory Board for the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area and a Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund.

The Omineca-Peace Interagency Management Committee (IAMC) is to work in partnership with the Advisory Board to prepare an annual monitoring report on plan implementation, amendments and expenditures.

This document reports on the activities and progress of the Advisory Board during the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year, summarizes the information provided by the IAMC in *The Annual Report of the Omineca-Peace Interagency Management Committee to the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board (Fiscal Year 1999-2000) October 13, 2000* and identifies matters of significance or concern.

Government Agency Operations Summary

Tenures or Permits

In summary, 32 new tenures or permits were issued in the M-KMA during the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year. 146 tenures or permits were renewed and 25 tenures or permits were replaced. Summary totals for each agency are listed below:

Tenure or Permit Types:	New	Renewal	Replacement
Ministry of Forests			
Grazing licenses	1		23
Grazing permits	0		
Cash timber sales	1		
Free use permits	4		
BC Environment			
Guide licenses			25
Trapping licenses		51	
Angling guide licenses		2	12
AMA Permits	6	8	1
BC Parks			
Park-use permit	2		
Non-exclusive commercial use permit	2	1	
Research			1
Operations		1	
Mineral Titles Branch			
Mineral claims	2	1	
Mines Branch			
Notices of Work	0		
Petroleum Lands Branch			
Drilling license (tenure)	1		
Oil/gas lease	0		
Oil and Gas Commission			
Pipeline permit	1		
Well site permit	1		
Geophysical Approval	4		
BC Assets and Land Corporation			
License of occupation		42	
Temporary permit	1		
Right of way	1	3	
Crown Grant			
Lease		2	
Reserve/Notation	1		
Permit	1		
Inventory	1		

There are number of applications, primarily for Commercial Recreation (CR) permits, on hold because of the need to complete the M-KMA Recreation Management Plan. This includes a number of existing tenured operators that want to expand their operations into CR activities other than hunting.

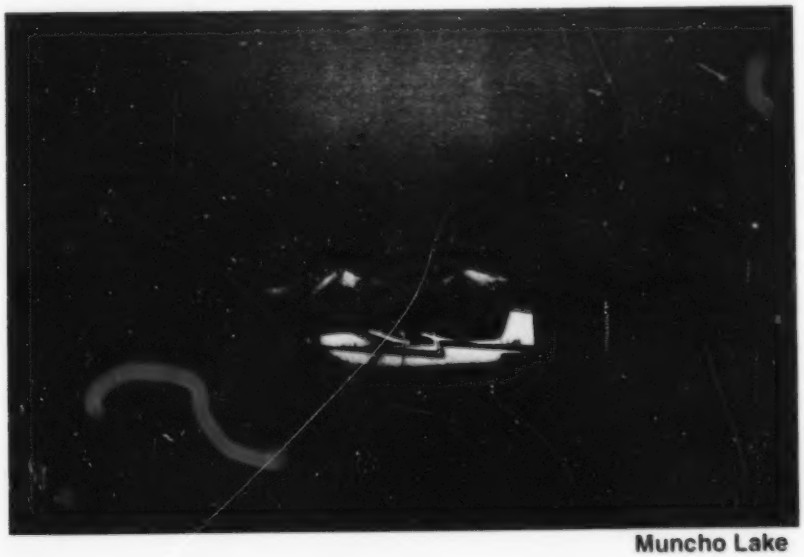
Operational activities

Operational activities conducted by agencies included:

- Recreation trail bridge installation;
- Fish, fish habitat and caribou inventories;
- Stream crossing assessments;
- Enforcement patrols;
- Reconnaissance/information gathering in Protected Areas;
- Collection/mapping of GPS data;
- Interpretation Programs;
- Production of information brochures;
- Horse range burn assessments;
- Production of information displays in Protected Areas;
- Land Act tenure inspections/assessments;
- Maintenance activities on the Alaska Highway;
- Local strategic planning; and Compliance and enforcement inspections of oil/gas operations.

Evaluation

The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board has reviewed the IAMC report and has general concurrence with its conclusion: "All tenures and permits issued, renewed and replaced and all operational activities conducted by government agencies in the M-KMA during the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year were evaluated and deemed to be consistent with the M-KMA Act and the Fort Nelson and Fort St. John Land and Resource Management Plans."



Muncho Lake

Expenditures

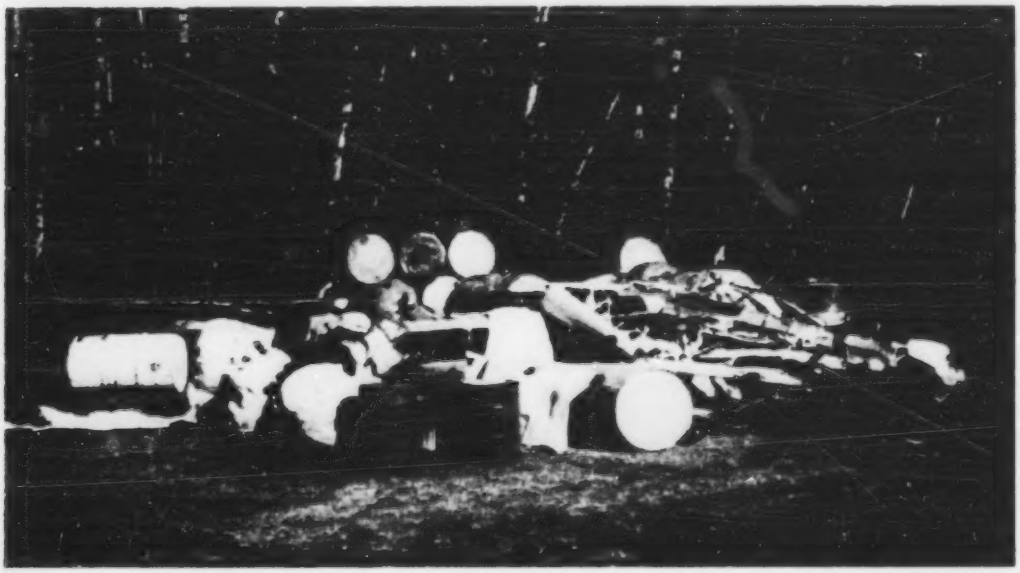
The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board is to report annually on the expenditures from the Trust Fund. The chart on page 13 and the detailed table found in Appendix 1 report the expenditures from the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund for fiscal year 1999-2000 consistent with the business plan, approved by the trustee after consultation with the M-K Advisory Board.

The highlights of these expenditures are:

1. Ongoing funding for the conception, design and planning for a land use symposium to be held in the future;

2. Continued clean up of old fuel barrels, garbage, metals and camp materials that are an environmental hazard in the Muskwa-Kechika;

3. Signage of the extensive system of trails throughout the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area;



Barrel cleanup

4. Supporting planning and the consolidation of inventory information from the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area;

5. Provide training to First Nations and other youth in basic wilderness management survival through the M-K Youth Environment Program at the Turnagain River Camp;

Youth Environment Camp, Turnagain River

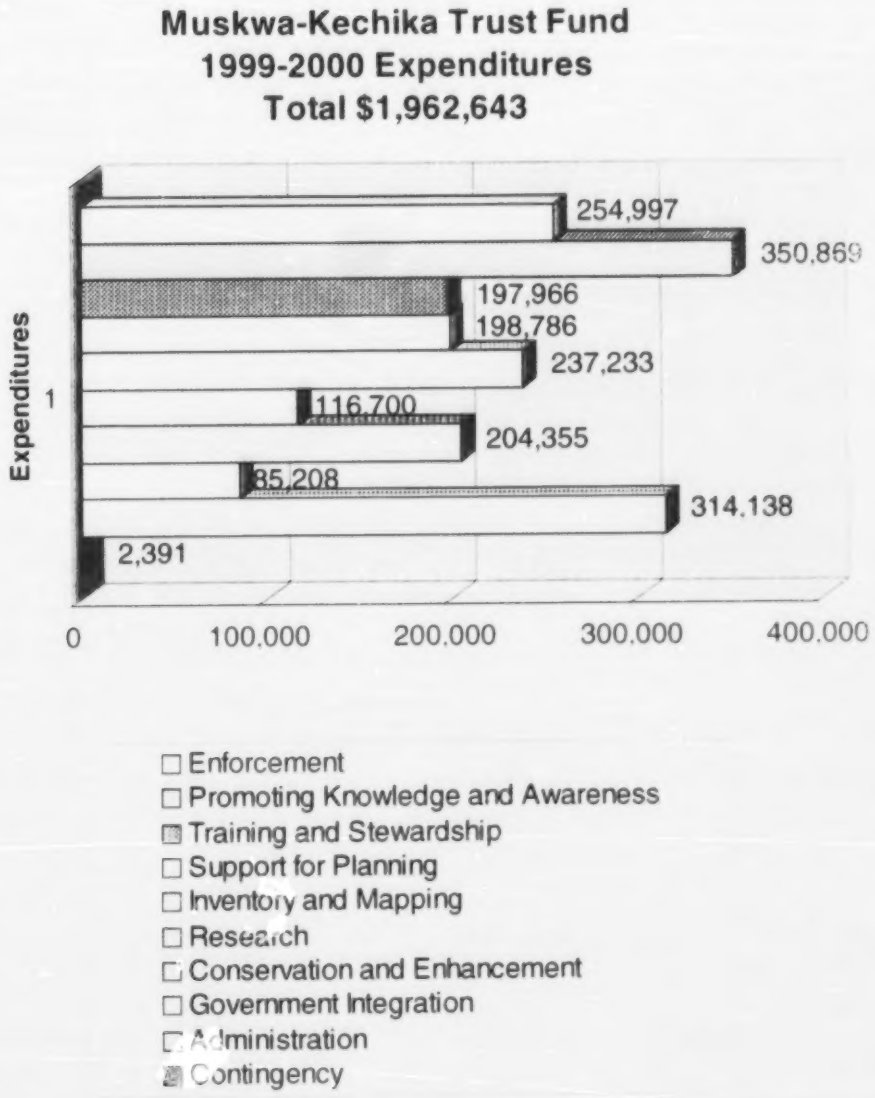
6. Enforcement and compliance work carried out within the M-KMA and established presence throughout the backcountry;

7. The review of the Sikanni Pre-Tenure Plan effectiveness in identifying and having industry address the wildlife, habitat, and wilderness values in the M-K;

8. The development and installation of Access Management Area Designated Vehicle Route signs to ensure enforcement;

9. The development of caribou habitat use analysis for integrated management planning and completion of a habitat model for this species for development of the M-K Wildlife Plan;

10. The examination of techniques and methodologies used in regular oil and gas construction methods, such as heli-drilling, as "Best Practices" specifically for the M-KMA.


Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund
1999-2000 Expenditures
Total $1,962,643
Expenditures
254,997
350,869
197,966
198,786
237,233
116,700
204,355
85,208
314,138
2,391
0
100,000
200,000
300,000
400,000
Enforcement
Promoting Knowledge and Awareness
Training and Stewardship
Support for Planning
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Research
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Government Integration
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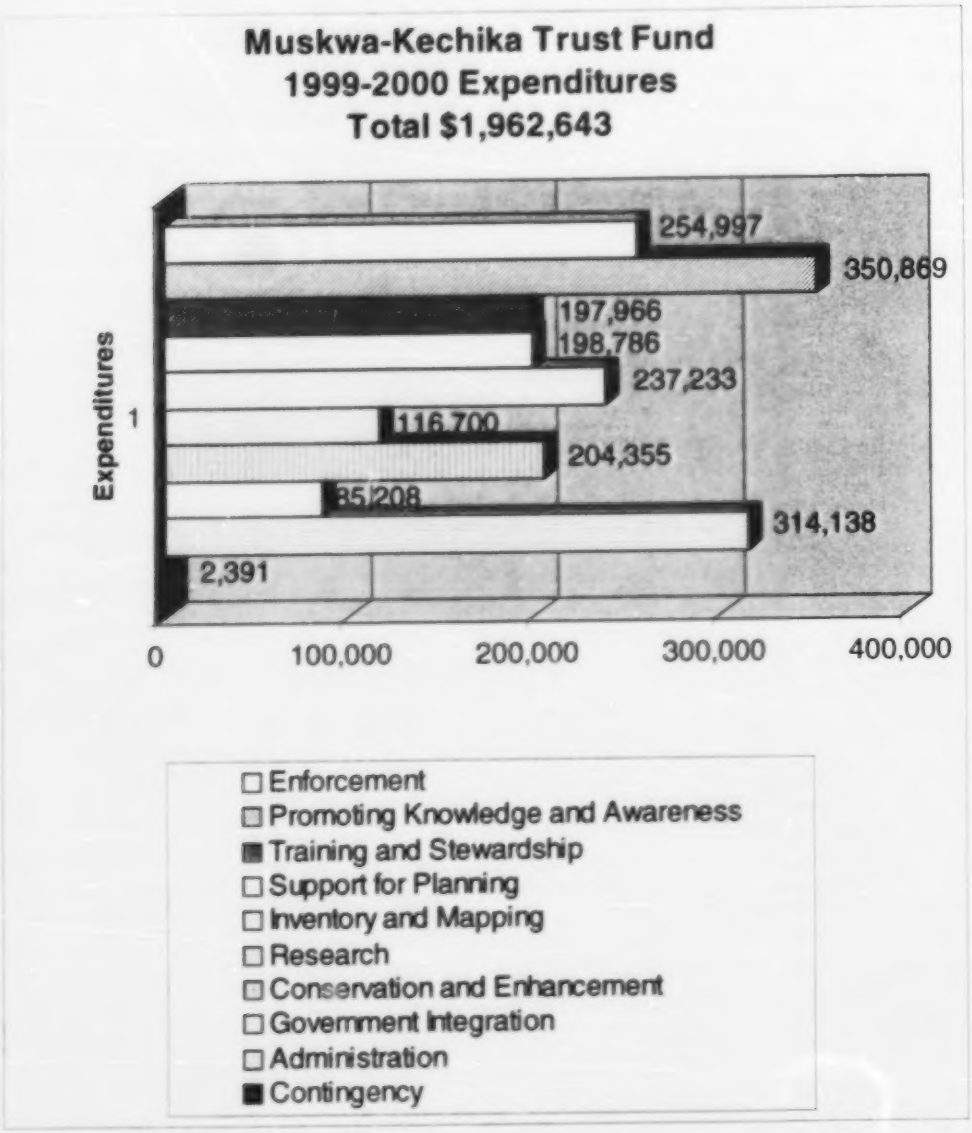
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Administration
Contingency

Appendix 1: Detailed Expenditure Report

Administration

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Coordinator Wages / Secretarial Support	Coordinator for the M-K Advisory Board, with the role of attending to the administration of the Board. Arranging for the call for and evaluation of projects seeking Trust Funding. Reports to the Chair. Secretarial services support the Coordinator.	$147,000	$153,896	($6,896)	
Strategic and Budgetary Facilitation	Facilitator to assist in the functioning of Board and some Committee meetings and assisting with the development of the *M-K Advisory Board Strategic Plan* and *M-K Advisory Board Policy and Procedures Manual.*	$20,000	18,427	1,573	Captured in Administration Contingency Category.
Board Travel Expenses	Expenses for Board Members to attend Board and Committee meetings	$58,000	$49,344	$8,656	Travel and accommodation for Board Meetings and Committee Meetings.
Meeting Expenses	Expenses for Board and Committee meetings.	$2,000	$3,367	($1,367)	Captures a number of expense items not specified in Corporate Accounting System.
Postage/Courier Costs		$10,000	$0	$10,000	Captured in Meeting Expenses.
Guest Speakers at Board Meetings	Speakers invited to speak to the Board, and at times public, on matters relevant to the MKMA.	$8,000	$0	$8,000	Captured in Contingency.
Public Notices	Newspaper advertisements of Board meetings.	$1,000	$4,015	($3,015)	
Technical Review Committee	Review of project submissions seeking funding from the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund. The technical reviews are carried out by consultants, academics, and government staff.	$20,000	$4,029	$15,971	Technical review of projects applying for M-K Trust Fund assistance.
Annual Audit	Audit of Trust Fund.	$15,000	$0	$15,000	
Ongoing Financial Administration	Financial management of Trust Fund.	$50,000	$50,000	$0	LUCO financial administration.
Contingency		$18,000	$31,060	($13,060)	Captures Strategic and Budgetary Facilitation and Guest Speakers.

Government Integration Program

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Program Manager Salary, Benefits, Travel, Office Expenses	The Program Manager is a LUCO employee tasked with ensuring that the Government obligations to the M-K Advisory Board are being addressed effectively. This position works closely with government staff, the Board and the Coordinator.	140,000	$116,463	$23,537	Position not staffed for the full period, new Program Manager hired on March 13, 2000.

Conservation and Enhancement

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
MKMA Barrel/Garbage and Camp Cleanup.	Inventory and recovery of abandoned barrels and other materials within the MKMA.	$170,000	$170,000	$0	
Effectiveness assessment of the Sikanni Pre-Tenure Plan.	Assessment of the Sikanni Pre-Tenure Plan to determine what changes in process, information levels, objectives and compliance, if any, should be incorporated into future pre-tenure plans.	$32,300	$29,360	$2,940	
Churchill Mine Reclamation Phase 1	Inspection of mine-site and downstream areas including the mill-site and tailings storage facilities is proposed to document reclamation completed to date and to assess for further clean-up/reclamation.	$5,000	$4,995	$5	
Vegetation Management Strategy	Scope out and test a vegetation management strategy based on the principles of biodiversity management.	$15,000	$0	$15,000	Currently sourcing data to complete.

Enforcement

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
AMA Sign Enforcement Sign Installation	Installation of signage along trails within the MKMA.	$55,000	$54,997	$3	
Enforcement Package	A Committee of the Board developed a workplan in conjunction with the Conservation Officer Service, with a number of subprojects, including increased CO travel within the MKMA, the hiring of an aboriginal CO, a conservation enforcement project, funding of Wilderness Watch and a Comprehensive Enforcement proposal.	$200,000	$200,000	$0	

Inventory and Mapping

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Inventory and Assessment – Campsites and Range Use.	Assess the location and condition of a number of dispersed campsites and/or range areas within the MKMA.	$75,000	$47,809	$27,191	Proposed target of sites not reached.
Caribou Habitat Use	Relocation of previously radio-collared Caribou for a two year period in the area from the Graham River north to the Prophet River.	$70,000	$70,000	$0	
Seral Stage Mapping	Compilation of existing range surveys, inspection, range enclosures and wildlife habitat assessment information from various agencies into ARCINFO, GIS Database. This will be used to produce a map of seral stage distribution of the range resource in the Sikanni-Halfway.	$12,000	$12,000	$0	
Archaeology and History of Rocky Mountain Trench.	Seed proposal of archaeological survey to be carried on a portion of a trail that crosses the MKMA.	$15,000	$15,000	$0	
Kechika Grizzly Inventory.	Inventory of Grizzlies within the Kechika Mountains Ecosection.	$105,000	$0	$105,000	Funding was not adequate to support the method proposed. Money was relocated to Fish Inventories.
Fish Inventories	Gather fish and fish habitat data within the M-K,	$40,000	$40,000	$0	Alternate Inventory and

	following a schedule prioritized by data needs and management issues.				Mapping Proposal.
Inventory and Monitoring of Range Resources	Cooperative project between MoF and BC Parks to expand the MoF Forests Range Reference Area Program to increase inventory knowledge and mapping capability to assist effective management of these areas.	$40,000	$27,424	$12,576	Alternate Inventory and Mapping Proposal.
Davie Trail South Unit	Reconnaissance and planning of southern part of Davie Trail (170 km).	$25,000	$25,000	$0	Not listed in 1999-2000 Expenditure Plan.

Support for Planning

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Recreation Management Plan.	Continuation of recreation planning from previous year.	$53,400	$9,545	$43,855	
MKMA Data System	Continuation of project to create and maintain a MKMA data organization system.	$60,000	$41,962	$18,038	Ongoing challenges in staffing this position due to limitation in hiring auxiliaries and co-op students
MKMA Protected Area Planning	Funds used to facilitate a high degree of public involvement in protected area management planning, conduct inventories and surveys, assemble data, and perform other functions required to support management planning.	$65,000	$56,679	$8,321	Not as many meetings scheduled as anticipated.
Besa Prophet Pre-tenure Planning	To assist in the completion of the Besa Prophet Pre-tenure plan, specifically technical plan writing and consultation.	$50,000	$50,000	$0	
Ecosystem Mapping GAP Analysis and Development.	Provide a detailed plan to develop a consistent ecosystem (wildlife habitat) map base throughout the entire MKMA.	$25,600	$25,600	$0	
Satellite Image Mapping and Visualization.	Development of a portion of the MKMA database employing satellite imagery.	$15,000	$15,000	$0	

Promoting Knowledge and Awareness

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
M-K Logo	Design of a logo for the MKMA.	$5,000	$2,694	$2,306	
Millennium Symposium	Design a symposium on land-use, wilderness, and First Nations issues using the Muskwa-Kechika and its associated communities as a backdrop.	$150,000	$156,151	($6,151)	
MKMA Trailhead Signs	Signage of trailheads throughout the MKMA.	$190,000	$180,227	$9,773	Quotes came in lower than expected.
M-K Information Centre	Carry out a planning process to determine the requirements for a state-of-the-art Muskwa-Kechika information centre that is computer based and designed to meet the needs of a wide range of public and private sector users.	$5,600	$5,600	$0	
Filming/Documentation	Background documentation of Board projects and activities	$10,000	$6,197	$3,803	

Research

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Access Sensitivity.	Seed funding for the development of a proposal to assist planners and resource managers in integrated resource management to address wilderness, wildlife and habitat values in relation to the sensitivity to access.	$20,000	$20,000	$0	Seed Project
Research Development Caribou and Lichens.	Develop a research proposal to clarify the relationships between woodland caribou-lichens ecosystems within the SWB and BWBS BEC zones of the MKMA.	$12,000	$12,000	$0	Seed Project
Caribou Population and Ecology in Northern Muskwa-Kechika.	Develop a research proposal to identify caribou populations and ecology in the northern part of the MKMA.	$10,000	$10,000	$0	Seed Project
Protected Area Adaptive Delivery Scoping	Fund the development of an issues modules approach to public involvement in the planning of Protected Areas.	$20,000	$20,000	$0	Seed Project
Moose Management Studies	Develop a proposal to for the study of moose population in the MKMA	$10,000	$10,000	$0	Seed Project

Oil and Gas Best Practices	Document to address new technologies that exist or need to be developed for oil and gas development within the MKMA.	$10,000	$10,000	$0	Seed Project
Cumulative Impact Assessment Framework	Research, fieldwork and writing of a report to address a cumulative impact assessment framework.	$25,000	$25,000	$0	Seed Project
Classification and Interpretation – Spruce Willow Birch	Seed funding for the development of a project to sample, classify and develop wildlife habitat interpretations for the SWB and AT BEC zones in the MKMA.	$9,700	$9,700	$0	Seed Project

Training and Stewardship

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Wilderness Host	Seed funding to research existing training modules and their applicability to the proper conduct of users of the Backcountry.	$15,000	$13,516	$1,484	
M-K Youth Environment	To train First Nations and other youth in basic wilderness management and survival with a view to supporting and maintaining the wildlife and wilderness resources of the MKMA.	$164,450	$164,450	$0	
First Nations Practical Training	To develop a training program to assist in the training and successful placement of First Nations residents of the MKMA in natural resource management in the area.	$5,000	$5,000	$0	
Training Assistant Guides	Initiate a training program that will provide First Nations with sufficient training to obtain work in the guiding business.	$7,500	$7,500	$0	
First Nations: Passing Knowledge to Next Generation	Seed proposal to develop a project to expose young members of the Treaty 8 Bands to the conservation and wilderness wisdom of their elders and to provide a first hand wilderness experience linked with viable guide-outfitting operations.	$7,500	$7,500	$0	

Contingency

Item	Description	Allocation	Expenditures to March 31, 2000	Variance	Comments
Contingency Fund	To address potential funding shortfalls in a project(s) that exceeds the allocated amount(s).	$49,000	$2,391	$46,609	

Trust Fund Projects – Resource Information

Results from the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund projects are made available to the general public and interested parties, and where appropriate, are made part of the outreach programs of the board to further the awareness of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area.
Various reports and documentation may be housed in the Muskwa-Kechika Information Office. Although some information may be confidential or sensitive to general public inquiries, most information can be made available.

Appendix 2 Detailed Report Agency Activity

Ministry of Forests, Fort St. John Forest District

Timber Harvesting

There was no harvesting activity within the M-K during 1999/2000. Neither Canadian Forest Products Ltd. (Canfor) nor the small business program are carrying out operations in the area. Unless grandfathered, harvesting can only proceed in the M-K under an approved landscape unit plan.

Louisiana-Pacific has not used the Pulpwood Agreement 13 that has been available for many years and falls within the MKMA. Louisiana-Pacific did sign four (4) non-renewable forest licenses in February with 10 and 20-year terms. A forest development plan has not yet been submitted.

Slocan has submitted a Forest Development Plan that does encompass part of the MKMA, but this is still awaiting approval, so no harvesting has taken place.

Small quantities of wood have been harvested for operations associated with guide and outfitting activities. These were limited to one timber sale license and two free use permits.

Range

There are five grazing licenses within the M-K that have been issued to support holders of guide outfitting licenses. In addition, there are two grazing licenses for ranchers who have a small piece of their operations within the M-K.

Recreation

There were no access improvements carried out by the MOF for the 1999/2000 fiscal year. The only forest recreation related activity was the installation of six fire rings along the Chowade River AMA Trail.

Compliance and Enforcement

No investigations were carried out.

Ministry of Forests, Fort Nelson Forest District

Timber Harvesting

There was no timber harvesting activity within the M-K during 1999/2000. None of the licensee forest development plans show any proposed operations in the management area. There are four (4) small administrative areas along the highway corridor which where established in the late 1980's and early 1990's for Cash Timber Sale Licenses. These areas have been grandfathered and will be available for use once the Silviculture Prescriptions have been completed and approved. Small quantities of wood have been harvesting from these areas in the past for use as building logs. In addition, small quantities of wood have been harvested from various locations for operations associated with guide and outfitting activities.

Range

There are seventeen grazing licenses and five grazing permits within the MKMA that have been issued to support holders of guide outfitting licenses and ranchers.

Recreation

There were no new sites, facilities or trails developed in 1999/2000.

BC Environment

Inventory

Reconnaissance Fish and Fish Habitat Inventories (to Resources Inventory Committee (RIC) standards) of the Upper and Lower Tuchodi Lakes were completed from planning and field through reporting phases. This was also accomplished for Robb Lake and Beattie Lake from planning through to field phases.

Wildlife

- Continued work on caribou habitat use was completed this past year. This involved monitoring radio-collared animals.
- One wildlife habitat burn was completed under HCTF funding
  A moose count, goat count and work on caribou were also completed in MU 7-51 under CLIB and Line Ministry Fundings as part of treaty support work for the Kaska Dena negotiations.

Access Management Area Permits

AMA permits were issued to the following agencies and individuals:

- BC Assessment Authority;
- Oil and Gas Commission;
- BCAL;
- BC Parks;
- Ministry of Energy and Mines; and
- Ministry of Forests, Fort St. John and Fort Nelson.
- Ducks Unlimited
- Kevin Olmstead to remove wild horses from the Prophet area.
- Mike Hammet's permit was revised to disallow transportation of hunters.
- Darwin Cary was issued a permit to assist with trapping operations in low snow areas
- Murphy Oil, Petro-Canada and Anderson Oil were issued time-limited permits for their operational requirements.
- Jim Fulton was issued a time limited permit to carry out work on a grazing lease

Enforcement

Conservation officers conducted the following activities within the MKMA:

- 3 ATV patrols;
- 6 helicopter flights;
- 5 fixed wing flights;
- 3 riverboat patrols;
- 80 days of vehicle patrols; and
- one - 10 day horse patrol

Pollution Prevention

- The barrel and waste cleanups continued in the MKMA this fiscal;
- Barrels collected at Denetiah, Dall, Pop and Aeroplane lakes were removed;
- 17 sites in the Churchill, Davis Keyes, Granny Creek, Toad and Kluachesi Lake were cleaned up;
- Collection bins for those using aircraft and boats were placed at Prophet and Kledo Creek;
- 200+ drums were removed from the Muskwa River valley;
- Cleanups were completed in the Robb Lake and Halfway Valley.

Habitat

- A report was completed on the effectiveness of the Upper Sikanni Pre-Tenure Plan. This report was later presented to the M-K Advisory Board and government agencies in June 2000.

GIS

- Continued GIS support was provided through the Fort St John office. This included the hiring of a co-op student.

Ministry of Energy and Mines

Mining

No mining activities occurred in the M-K Management Area.

BC Parks

Operational activities carried out by BC Parks during Fiscal Year 1999-2000 are listed in figure 1.

Figure 1. Operational Activities by BC Parks:

ACTIVITY	PARK/PROTECTED AREA
• Participated in two legs of the Conservation Officer horse patrol through this Park. • Tuchodi River Bull Trout Assessment and River Boat Assessment • Various patrols to Kluachesi, Gatho, Tuchodi and Muskwa River to conduct random inspections • Worked on the recreational campsite assessments • Took Larry Pynn, Outdoor Reporter for the *Vancouver Sun* into the Northern Rockiest to assist him with the book writing project that he is currently involved with	Northern Rocky Mountain
• Several trips into Redfern Lake and Trimble Lake to install signing to clarify ATV access corridor and routes off corridor – check on visitor use numbers • Trail assessment and future plans for trail improvements to minimize environmental damage	Redfern-Keily
• Took Assistant Deputy Minister of Parks on a flight over the corridor to discuss the new park • Hotsprings interpretation program for July and August • Work with fisheries and consultant on Chum Salmon assessment of Liard River • Evaluation of management options to protect *Physella wrighta* (rare and endangered mollusc) in Hot Springs habitat • Evaluation of presence of Hot Water Chub to determine if it should be classified as a rare and endangered species	Liard River Hotsprings And Corridor Parks
• Grade four and seven school programming on Protected Areas throughout the Fort St. John/Dawson School Districts, highlighting the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area.	District Wide
• Annual operating permits for campground maintenance in place	Muncho, Stone and Tetsa River Parks

In addition to the summary of park use permits found in Table 1, a number of Park Use Permits were temporarily issued in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area last year. These *Park Act* – Section 30 permits were to authorize tenures existing under the *Land Act* prior to the designation of the area and included the following Guide Outfitters:

- Darwin Cary — Denetiah, Dall River Old Growth, Horneline Creek
- Gary Moore — Denetiah
- Dale Drinkall — Liard River Corridor, Toad River Hotsprings
- John Robidou — Liard River Corridor
- Rudolph Waloszek — Liard River Corridor, Scatter River Old Growth
- Dave Wiens — Northern Rocky Mountains
- Paul Gillis — Redfern-Keily

• Danny Dejarlais	Prophet River Hotsprings, Northern Rocky Mountains, Redfern-Keily
• Alan Young	Graham-Laurier
• Mike Hammett	Redfern-Keily
• Kevin Olmstead	Northern Rocky Mountains
• Darwin Watson	Graham-Laurier
• Barry Tompkins	Northern Rocky Mountains

Staff presence in the backcountry of the new parks within the MKMA took place last year for enforcement, education, and reconnaissance purposes and included trips into the Denetiah, Redfern-Keily, Northern Rocky Mountains, Graham-Laurier, and Liard River Corridor. Management of frontcountry parks within the MKMA occurred regularly and included enforcement and public education activities as well as regular monitoring of campground operations.

BC Assets and Land Corporation

During the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year, there were a number of meetings with BCAL clients with operations in the MKMA. These meetings were concerned, mainly, with existing tenures or new applications that have been processed to the level consistent with the direction given in the MKMA Management Plan.

Existing tenures that expired within the MK were renewed to allow continued tenure. These renewals extended the exact terms and conditions of the contracts that were previously in place.

There are a number of commercial recreation applications with BCAL at this time and these applications will be processed upon completion of the MKMA Recreation Plan which is expected to be completed by the end of this calendar year.

Public Works Canada

The following work was done last year in the Alaska Highway Corridor:

- routine mixing of sand/salt and cold mix at the highway camp
- some road construction and repair
- routine maintenance of the highway surface and right of way.

Petroleum Lands Branch

Local strategic planning activities were conducted in association with the development of the Besa Prophet Pre-Tenure Plan for Oil and Gas.

Oil and Gas Commission

There were 4 inspections carried out by the Compliance and Enforcement Branch of the OGC on 4 well locations in the MKMA. These inspections were carried out under the auspices of the Drilling and Production Regulation which includes an environmental component with respect to construction practices and ongoing maintenance of the access roads and leases.